

### 3. Rwenjeru primary school and community WASH initiative, Uganda

- Local partner: Spero Child International (#029)  
A community-based organization founded in 2019 to empower vulnerable women, children, adolescents, and persons with disabilities in southwestern Uganda. Partnered with the Rotary Club to protect the River Rwizi and inspire five primary schools in Mbarara to prioritize hygiene and sanitation.
- Project cost: \$3,981 (JWF Fund: \$1,500, implementing organization: \$1,681, beneficiaries: \$800)  
budget: \$3,500 (JWF Fund: \$1,500, implementing organization: \$1,200, beneficiaries: \$800)
- Number of beneficiaries: 450 (25 men, 25 women, 400 children, including 342 schoolchildren)
- Background:  
The primary challenge for this school and its surrounding community was a lack of access to safe, clean water sources and adequate sanitation facilities. The school and its community were relying on open wells potentially, contaminated by livestock, exposing them to a high risk of waterborne diseases, particularly affecting children. The school also lacked proper latrines.

#### 【Before】



Damaged water harvesting tank



Damage to water harvesting tank



Pupils fetching water at the pond with livestock nearby

- Project Details:
  - Repaired 10,000-liter water tank, constructed foundation, protective wall, and lid. Constructed two new taps with foundation and metal fencing. Conducted a training workshop for pupils on O & M of RWHS, and 3 training sessions on the cleaning of school water points and the ground. A school WASH club was formed.
  - Rwenjeru Primary School Management Committee will have ultimate ownership and oversight. The school WASH club will be trained in basic operations, minor maintenance, and hygiene promotion. The role of a responsible teacher will be recognized by the committee, and the PTA will contribute to major maintenance jobs.

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#### 【During】



Tank removed for repair of cracks and holes



Foundation construction



Repaired tank sited on the raised foundation



Constructing the wall around the repaired tank



New water taps connected to the tank being installed



Gutters connected to the water harvest tank

#### 【After】




A schoolgirl and a boy fetching safe, clean water at the new school taps



Pupils at the new taps, which are protected by a metal fence




A schoolgirl and a boy holding messages of thanks

 Mr. Nuwagaba Johnbosco,  
55 years old


Absenteeism due to stomach illnesses is already dropping. We can now focus on teaching, not worrying about water.

 Natukunda Mercy, 14 years old


We are no longer late for class or tired from the long walks. The water tastes clean and we are not afraid to drink it.

 Akatwijuka Bryson,  
11 years old

I used to carry water from home every day. Now my bag is lighter, with only books.

 Mr. Byamukama Yonah,  
27 years old

Seeing pupils at school collect water was painful. My heart is now at peace knowing they are safe at school.

 Mr. Byaruhanga Alexs,  
46 years old

This tap has become a blessing for our school community. It shows what can be achieved when we work together for our children's health.